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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Avi Ashkenazi et al.

Serial No.: 09/991157

Filed: 11/16/2001

Examiner: Not yet assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above captioned patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

In the specification:

Please delete the paragraph at page 1, line 2, that was previously added by preliminary amendment.

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

-- RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/941992 filed 8/28/2001, which is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT/US00/08439 filed 3/30/2000, which claims priority under 35 USC §119 to US Provisional Application 60/146222 filed 7/28/1999 and to US Provisional Application 60/141037 filed

Patent Docket: P2730P1C51

Serial No.: 09/991157

Filed: 11/16/2001

6/23/1999, where PCT/US00/08439 is a continuation-in-part of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/380137 filed 8/25/1999, which is the National Stage filed under 35 USC §371 of PCT Application PCT/US99/12252 filed 6/2/1999, which claims priority under 35 USC §119 to US Provisional Application 60/091673 filed 7/2/1998.--